

# *How to Care for a* **VIVID AZALEA Shrub** **Rhododendron ‘Vivid (Girard hybrid)**

## **SELECT SITE:**

**Light Requirements:** A sunny site with 4+ hours of direct sunlight each day  
This shrub will grow larger to 3-6 ft. tall & wide; Space 36 in. away from other plants or structures. For a hedge, plant 3-4 ft. apart.

Tolerates a wide range of well drained soils; prefers soil with a high organic matter.

Versatile Plant for:

Mass or group in shrub border. Low hedge along path. Near the home foundation.

In containers. To highlight an area.

Ideal USDA Plant Hardiness Zones: 8,9,10

## **PLANT PREP:**

Open box upon arrival, remove packing materials to let the plant “breathe”. Remove plastic bag, tape, and newspaper. Water well. There are drainage holes in the bottom of the pot so do this outside where the extra water will drain away.

## **HOLE PREP:**

Dig saucer shaped hole. The depth is determined by measuring the height of the roots from root flare to bottom. The width is 2-3 times the root ball diameter. Using these calculations, the ideal hole for the new bush will be approximately 10” tall by 24-30” wide.

## **PLANTING:**

Place plant in hole and adjust for aesthetics. Hold in place while adding more soil, until the hole is completely filled. Push soil down until firm. Do not plant the shrub deeper than it has already been growing. Water well immediately after planting. Mulch evenly to a depth of 2-3 inches being sure to stay at least 4” away from its trunk.

## **FUTURE MAINTENANCE:**

Pruning helps to maintain an attractive look while inducing branching for season blooming. Trim in spring & to occasionally remove any dead or diseased branches.

It is essential to frequently water newly planted azaleas due to their shallow root systems. Water when the top 3 in. of soil is dry, which could possibly be daily during the hot summer season.

If desired, fertilize with an Azalea fertilizer in spring, follow directions on package.

